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Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds

Information received from the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations addressing the recommendations of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present note provides a summary of the 13 reports submitted by the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on the progress in the implementation of recommendations of the Permanent Forum. The full reports are available on the website of the Permanent Forum (www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii).

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I. Introduction

1. In October 2012, the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues sent a questionnaire to United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations enquiring about their activities in relation to indigenous peoples' issues. The questionnaire was also meant to elicit information on the progress made towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Further information was sought on how activities aimed at implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the objectives of the Second Decade would affect the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

2. Responses were received from the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The full reports are available on the website of the Permanent Forum (www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii). Summaries of the responses are set out below.

II. Department of Political Affairs

3. As the lead department within the Secretariat devoted to political analysis, peacemaking and preventive diplomacy, the Department of Political Affairs has contributed to several mediation processes, involving indigenous peoples' communities, mainly in the Americas. For example, it provided support to facilitate the dialogue between the Government of Panama and representatives of the Ngäbe-Buglé indigenous peoples, which resulted in the approval of legislation banning mining and protecting water and environmental resources in the Ngäbe-Buglé region. It also cooperated with the United Nations country team in Colombia, with a view to supporting conversations between the Government and the indigenous communities of the northern Cauca region.

4. The Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, in a follow-up to a country visit undertaken in cooperation with the Permanent Forum to assess the situation of the Awá peoples in July 2010, contributed to the monitoring of the status of the *planes de salvaguardia* (safeguard plans) mandated by the Constitutional Court in Colombia for the protection of 35 indigenous groups at risk of extinction. Additionally, members of the Department's standby team of mediation experts carried out a mission to support, at the request of the Congressional Peace Commission in Colombia, the organization of *mesas regionales* (regional gatherings) to collect civil society inputs for the peace talks between the Government of Colombia and the guerrillas of the Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC). Indigenous peoples' organizations participated and prepared proposals.

5. The Americas Division of the Department and the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum organized a meeting on gender in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a segment addressing the role of indigenous women leaders. Another meeting was organized in Panama to share best practices regarding the prevention and management of conflicts in Central America, with a focus on the impact of extractive industries on indigenous peoples.

6. In December 2012, the Department deployed an expert of its standby team to Santiago to advise the United Nations country team in the provision of technical support to a consultative meeting entitled "Gran Encuentro de los Pueblos Indígenas sobre Consulta Previa" ("Great gathering of indigenous peoples regarding prior consultation"), organized by the Corporación Nacional de Desarrollo Indígena (National Corporation for Indigenous Development), with the objective of discussing regulatory mechanisms for the implementation of provisions on consultation as contained in the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Convention No. 169).

III. Department of Public Information

7. The Department of Public Information works closely with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, especially in connection with the annual session of the Permanent Forum through its multilingual television, webcast, radio, photo, meetings coverage and News Centre services. The Department also promoted the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples through its social media platforms, reaching an estimated 6 million people every day, and through its network of 63 information centres around the world.

IV. United Nations Children's Fund

8. In 2012, UNICEF completed a global evaluation of its implementation of the human rights-based approach to programming, which included findings and recommendations relevant to the organization's work on indigenous peoples' issues. Despite good examples of the application of the principle of non-discrimination, challenges persist in terms of collecting disaggregated data. As part of its management response, UNICEF plans to integrate into its new Medium-Term Strategic Plan (2014-2017) measurable and verifiable results and indicators for the most disadvantaged children, including indigenous children. Similarly, UNICEF will assess opportunities to analyse issues of ethnicity through its multiple indicator cluster surveys, as well as its demographic and health surveys and other data-collection tools. Finally, UNICEF will use guidance provided by its new Monitoring Results for Equity System to identify and share concrete strategies for programmes to specifically target indigenous children, adolescents and women. It is also developing principles and programme guidance on indigenous and minority children, within the framework of the System.

9. UNICEF is active at the country level. Its field presence in both developed and developing countries places the organization in a central position to promote and protect the rights of indigenous children, women and youth. In developed countries, it has focused on advocacy and leadership training, facilitating reconciliation processes between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. It has also focused on

improving the education and health conditions of indigenous children and youth by supporting the provision of intercultural and multilingual services.

10. In several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, UNICEF is implementing intercultural and bilingual education programmes. In Ecuador, UNICEF is working with local authorities to conduct territorial tracing activities in indigenous communities to identify out-of-school children. UNICEF Guatemala supported the systematization of educational models for indigenous children in preschool, kindergarten and elementary school. UNICEF Argentina provided support to some provincial education ministries to improve the quality of intercultural bilingual education. UNICEF Venezuela supported postgraduate bilingual education for indigenous school teachers and initiated the training of civil servants in results-based management to improve the implementation of bilingual education policies. In Viet Nam, the cooperation between UNICEF and the national educational authorities resulted in national and provincial communication for development plans addressing the stigma and discrimination facing ethnic minority children. UNICEF Congo Brazzaville is promoting the equitable availability of services, including educational services, for indigenous children.

11. UNICEF is working on a number of studies and analyses, such as a study on the situation of indigenous children in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on education, health, nutrition and child protection. Jointly with ECLAC, the UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean published data on deprivations suffered by indigenous children related to housing, drinking water and education. Other studies have been conducted at the country level, for example, on indigenous children and Afro-Honduran children in Honduras, on the sociometric perception of Bolivian children and adolescents, on first language education for indigenous children in Guyana and on indigenous and Maroon education in Suriname.

12. UNICEF Bolivia, UNICEF Ecuador and UNICEF Peru conducted a study on the availability of vocational technical training and education services to indigenous peoples in the Amazon, which is intended to generate knowledge about the Amazon region's environmental priorities in the global context of climate change. In collaboration with the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, UNICEF completed a study on teenage suicide among the indigenous peoples of Latin America. In collaboration with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, an adolescent-friendly version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has been developed. Moreover, UNICEF is about to complete, in collaboration with UN-Women, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the World Health Organization (WHO) and ILO, a joint study on violence against indigenous girls, adolescents and young women.

13. UNICEF is implementing recommendations of the Permanent Forum on issues such as birth registration, migration and the incorporation of cultural perspectives in health policies, programmes and reproductive health services. Training is provided for indigenous community health workers on the implementation of mobile strategies in order to ensure that services (health, information, birth registration) reach pastoralist or forest groups and that the availability of data collection and disaggregation is improved. UNICEF is also active in humanitarian and emergency

contexts. In Colombia, it has promoted comprehensive care for children and adolescents — especially to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendant peoples — affected by violence, displacement and natural disasters.

14. Within the humanitarian context in Kenya, UNICEF provided emergency education supplies to vulnerable nomadic children in Turkana, including refugee children in Kakuma. With regard to the issue of extractive industries, the UNICEF Division of Private Fundraising and Partnerships is currently finalizing a guidance note on corporate social responsibility and engagement with extractive industries, which will include information on the negative effects that extractive industrial work has on indigenous peoples. Finally, UNICEF remains an active member of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues and it has offered to chair the Support Group for the 2013/2014 period. UNICEF continues to participate in the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, which it joined with ILO, OHCHR, UNDP and UNFPA in May 2011.

V. United Nations Environment Programme

15. UNEP is the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment, assisting Governments to address global, regional and national environmental challenges. As a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, UNEP is developing new mechanisms to promote transparency and effective engagement with civil society, including indigenous peoples. Pursuant to a Permanent Forum recommendation, UNEP has endorsed its Indigenous Peoples Policy Guidance in November 2012, which will support UNEP staff in engaging with indigenous peoples in its programme of work.

16. UNEP is administering several projects and programmes in relation to indigenous peoples in the areas of education, health and culture, many of which are in the African continent. For instance, UNEP is working with Governments and other relevant stakeholders towards ensuring that initiatives on education for sustainable consumption respect the importance of indigenous knowledge and recognize alternative lifestyles. UNEP also provided support for environmental management of areas inhabited by indigenous peoples that are of enormous environmental, historical, and sociocultural significance, for example, the Support for Environmental Management of the Iraqi Marshlands project, which commenced in August 2004. Through the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, which encourages African countries to promote the sound management of chemicals, or the Health and Environment Strategic Alliance (HESA), established in Luanda in 2010 to follow up on the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa, adopted in 2008 at the African Inter-Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment, indigenous peoples have opportunities to engage in processes to agree on the national a l continental priorities on health and the environment.

17. UNEP is the convener for the environment and climate change window under the Millennium Development Goals Fund initiative and has worked to tackle the impacts of climate change on poor communities and find solutions that ensure sustainable development at the country level. For example, in the southern Andean highlands of the Cusco and Apurímac regions of Peru, the United Nations Joint Programme on Environment and Climate Change launched a radio broadcast

popularly known as *Pachamamanchista Munakusun* (Nurturing Our Land) to build awareness about climate change and adaptation measures. Beginning in 2009, UNEP undertook an assessment of the environmental and public health impacts of oil contamination in Ogoniland in the Niger Delta, with the community engagement of indigenous peoples throughout the process.

18. Although other UNEP projects and activities on climate mitigation and clean energy do not focus exclusively on indigenous peoples and their communities, they have a potential to benefit rural communities, including indigenous peoples. Examples of such projects and activities are the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles and the promotion of renewable energy. Several programmes related to GRID-Arendal are aimed at engaging indigenous peoples in the Arctic on the issue of short-lived climate pollutants. The programme *Many Strong Voices* brings together the peoples of the Arctic and small island developing States to meet the challenges of climate change. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, an international science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystems, is developing a stakeholder engagement strategy that is also open to indigenous peoples.

19. UNEP has also made progress in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum. This includes the Global Environment Facility-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Russian Arctic (Arctic Agenda 2020), which comprises projects focusing on Arctic environmental governance, Arctic rivers and biodiversity, including a component that promotes indigenous peoples' participation in biodiversity conservation, water management and environmental decision-making and governance. The International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry, in collaboration with the Association of World Reindeer Herders, conducted a series of workshops for reindeer herding youth in 2012. In June 2012, a joint UNEP/Mongolia/Russian Federation proposal was approved to develop a full-scale nomadic herders project funded through the Global Environment Facility. The project focuses on biodiversity conservation and the mitigation of land degradation in reindeer herding areas of northern Mongolia and the Far East Russian Federation.

20. The UNEP and UNDP Poverty and Environment Initiative will enhance the effective participation of indigenous peoples by using a gender- and rights-based perspective in its programmatic approach in the planning, implementation and evaluation of poverty and environment policies. Through the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability, UNEP will seek to disseminate educational resources on green economy, ecosystems management, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, REDD-plus initiatives and so on, to build capacity of indigenous youth. In addition, UNEP consistently ensures the participation of indigenous peoples and their representatives in all its relevant meetings following its nine major groups approach and has also ensured that indigenous peoples are represented in the Governing Council and all its other relevant meetings. As a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, UNEP is also developing a global project to support the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and the UNEP Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Bali Guidelines), through a joint UNEP-United Nations Institute for Training and Research proposal for a two-year global capacity-development initiative.

VI. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

21. Recommendations to the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity arising from the ninth and tenth sessions of the Permanent Forum were considered at the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions in October 2011, and draft recommendations were then forwarded to and considered at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Hyderabad, India in October 2012. Concerning the use of the term "indigenous peoples and local communities", the Conference of the Parties requested that the ad hoc open-ended intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions take into account submissions on this matter and all its implications for the Convention on Biological Diversity and its parties.

22. Regarding the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, the parties to the Convention included seven preambular paragraphs of specific interest to indigenous and local communities, which aid in the interpretation of the preceding articles, including a provision affirming that nothing in the Protocol shall be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the existing rights of indigenous and local communities. Article 12, concerning traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, states that Parties shall not restrict the customary use and exchange of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge within and among indigenous and local communities in accordance with the objectives of the Convention. Article 5 of the Nagoya Protocol requires that each Party shall take legislative, administrative or policy measures with the aim of ensuring that benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources that are held by indigenous and local communities are shared in a fair and equitable way with the communities concerned, based on mutually agreed terms. The Nagoya Protocol also requires that access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is based on the prior and informed consent or approval and involvement of these indigenous and local communities, and that mutually agreed terms have been established in order to ensure the equitable sharing of benefits.

23. The Conference of the Parties welcomed the adoption of the programme of work between the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The implementation of this programme of work will involve key partners such as indigenous and local communities. The Conference of the Parties also decided to initiate the development of guidelines that would facilitate the repatriation of information, including on cultural property, in order to facilitate the recovery of traditional knowledge of biological diversity.

24. In 2012, the secretariat of the Convention was able to facilitate capacity-building and preparatory workshops for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Africa (Burundi, June 2012), Asia (Thailand, July 2012) and Paraguay (August 2012), which focused on indigenous and local communities and biodiversity. The secretariat has also secured additional funds for capacity-building for the recently adopted Nagoya Protocol and is endeavouring to ensure that indigenous and local communities are represented at these events.

25. Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity remain committed to the participation of indigenous and local community representatives in the work of the

Convention, including through the establishment of a voluntary fund to facilitate the participation of indigenous and local community representatives in meetings. This includes enhanced participation within the ad hoc open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, which is the main subsidiary body for discussions related to traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use of biodiversity. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Code of Ethical Conduct on Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (the Tkarihwaié:ri Code of Ethical Conduct). Although the mandate to develop guidelines within the framework of the Code of Conduct remains voluntary, such guidelines are adopted by the consensus of the parties to the Convention and carry an ethical and moral weight and over time can become established standards in customary international law.

VII. United Nations Development Programme

26. The work of UNDP with indigenous peoples is an integral part of its broader work towards sustainable human development. In 2012, UNDP worked closely with relevant United Nations mechanisms and special procedures to mainstream indigenous issues and to advance the rights of indigenous peoples. UNDP anchors indigenous peoples' issues in development programming through a range of tools and activities, including national workshops on lessons learned and best practices and the establishment of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Committee to United Nations country teams. In the area of human rights, UNDP works closely with OHCHR, drawing on its technical expertise, to enhance its programming support to partner countries. UNDP is also part of the United Nations Development Group human rights mainstreaming mechanism, which promotes a coherent United Nations system-wide capacity development approach towards mainstreaming human rights. The United Nations Practitioners' Portal on Human Rights-Based Approaches to Programming (http://hrbaportal.org) provides a range of tools from the United Nations system to mainstream human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples, and facilitates dialogue among development practitioners.

27. In 2001, UNDP adopted its Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, aimed at: (a) fostering an enabling environment for promoting indigenous peoples' participation in decision-making, coexistence of their economic, cultural and sociopolitical systems and developing inclusive government policies and programmes; and (b) integrating indigenous peoples' perspectives and concepts of development into the work of UNDP. In 2012, UNDP revised its Strategy on Civil Society and Civic Engagement, which takes into account the need for dialogue, capacity-building for indigenous peoples and their inclusion and participation in decision- and policymaking. To strengthen engagement on indigenous issues, UNDP is maintaining online platforms to foster peer-exchange on indigenous peoples such as an internal TeamWorks space and an external website on UNDP and indigenous peoples.

28. Given the impact of extractive industries on indigenous peoples and on their livelihoods, UNDP actively engaged with a number of stakeholders and in 2012 developed a Strategy for Supporting Sustainable and Equitable Management of the Extractive Sector for Human Development. In addition, UNDP aims to transform extractive industries to arrive at a sustainable, accountable and participatory

management of the extractive sector. As a starting point, in November 2012 it organized a high-level seminar on the sustainable management of the extractive sector in Guyana, where participants discussed the rights of indigenous peoples, anti-corruption and transparency issues relating to the extractive industries, as well as conflict and conflict prevention and extractive natural resources. In addition, UNDP carried out research on the extractives sector, indigenous peoples and democratic governance, with case studies from Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, to contribute to inclusive and participatory development and governance. The project is currently in its implementation phase and it is expected that the findings would make an important contribution to defining the future role of UNDP and its engagement with indigenous peoples and extractive industries.

29. Under the focus area of parliamentary development, UNDP has supported a series of activities on indigenous peoples' political representation. Promoting Inclusive Parliaments (2009-2011) was a joint initiative of the UNDP Democratic Governance Group and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The aim is to promote the effective representation of minorities and indigenous peoples in parliaments. Furthermore, the Global Programme for Electoral Cycle Support aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of electoral management bodies to plan, manage and deliver democratic elections. In Latin America, the Global Programme focuses on the political participation of indigenous peoples, with a particular emphasis on indigenous women and youth. A Handbook for Parliamentarians on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has been developed, through collaboration between UNDP, OHCHR, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), IPU and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Further, a new project on building inclusive parliaments for indigenous peoples, which seeks to establish a global network for indigenous parliamentarians, is currently being designed.

30. Within this multi-agency programme (FAO, UNDP and UNEP), UNDP is the lead agency for national governance initiatives aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD-plus), the engagement of indigenous peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders, and the transparent, equitable and accountable management of REDD-plus payments. In 2012, the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) completed consultations on the UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent. The UN-REDD Programme also published *Free, Prior and Informed Consent for REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific Region: Lessons Learned*. The main purpose is to share lessons learned on free, prior and informed consent for REDD-plus initiatives, based on the emerging experiences of the UN-REDD Programme partner countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The UN-REDD Programme is working on community-based REDD-plus activities that aim to direct funds towards community-level projects that address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, strengthen land rights, explore mechanisms for benefit-sharing and advance the implementation of safeguards for REDD-plus initiatives, among others.

31. UNDP has worked extensively at the regional level. Within the Regional Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean 2008-2013, it is fostering dialogue and participation, especially among Afro-descendants and indigenous peoples. In 2012, the work of the Asia-Pacific Regional Centre specifically focused on key

issues concerning indigenous peoples' rights to land and natural resources, through support to legislative and policy frameworks. Together with OHCHR and the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions, UNDP has scaled up support to national human rights institutions, which are crucial to bringing indigenous peoples and Governments together. Finally, UNDP is part of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, together with ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF and UNFPA. At the second meeting of the Partnerships Policy Board, seven proposals for funding were approved in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Congo and Nicaragua and for a regional programme in South-East Asia. The projects are currently being implemented. The operationalization of the Partnership was welcomed by the Permanent Forum in its 2012 report. Partnership-funded projects have also proven to be catalytic for increasing resources for indigenous peoples' issues at the national level.

32. UNDP is also the administrative agent and one of the 27 participating United Nations agencies of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund. In 2012, the Fund signed an agreement with the International Indigenous Women's Forum to implement the initiative on monitoring the Millennium Development Goals through an indigenous peoples' perspective. The main goal of this partnership is to ultimately increase indigenous peoples' participation in the Millennium Development Goals monitoring processes through the identification of best practices and lessons learned based on the experience of the Fund. So far a mapping exercise of the 130 joint programmes that the Fund supports has been conducted and 47 of them from 20 countries (mostly in Latin America) have been identified as including the participation of indigenous peoples at the design and/or implementation phases.

VIII. Inter-American Development Bank

33. IDB is committed to advancing the concept of development with identity for indigenous peoples. In 2006, the Bank approved the Operational Policy on Indigenous Peoples and the Strategy for Indigenous Peoples, which establish long-term objectives, principles and rules for Bank activities with indigenous peoples. The Policy and the Strategy were reviewed by the independent Office of Evaluation of IDB in 2012. The Results Framework of the Ninth General Capital Increase obligates the Bank to report on the participation of indigenous peoples in projects in the following areas: health, targeted anti-poverty programmes, water provision, sanitary connections, upgraded dwellings, civil or identification registries, public low-carbon transportation systems and agricultural services and investments.

34. The Action Plan for Development with Identity for Indigenous Peoples and Peoples of African Descent promotes the development and use of a range of public and private sector instruments to enhance the institutional, technical and financial capacity of the Bank and the region to advance development with identity for indigenous peoples in topics such as biodiversity, climate change and benefit-sharing.

35. The Bank is financing several projects with a focus on indigenous peoples, including a project to investigate how Government ecosystem programmes can be better harnessed by indigenous peoples for sustainable development in their territories, and community-led pilots and programmes to demonstrate the role of

traditional knowledge in preserving natural resources for future generations through small-scale climate change adaptation efforts in Guatemala and Honduras. Indigenous peoples are also part of the new IDB biodiversity and ecosystems services initiative, anticipated for Board approval in 2013, which includes potential financing partnership opportunities for indigenous peoples with Governments and the private sector.

36. Gender is a cross-cutting theme in the Operational Policy on Indigenous Peoples and in this respect, IDB, in collaboration with local indigenous women's organizations, has developed a detailed analysis of the current condition of indigenous maternal and infant health in rural communities in Latin America. A new IDB project in Guatemala works to identify best practices to promote the empowerment of indigenous girls, while in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, IDB has designed a programme to implement recent legislation on violence against women and to strengthen local networks to offer quality services to survivors of violence, as well as preventative measures. Additionally, the design and implementation of effective consultation processes with indigenous peoples is an issue of significant importance for IDB. For this reason, in 2012, IDB initiated a process with indigenous organizations, civil society, traditional leaders and academics to develop better guidance mechanisms for consultation with indigenous peoples.

IX. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

37. FAO engagement with indigenous peoples has been increasing in recent years, owing to the adoption of a policy on indigenous and tribal peoples in 2010. Indigenous peoples' participation in the Committee on World Food Security and in the management of the Multi-donor Trust Fund in support of the participation of civil society organizations has been ensured. Internship opportunities are also available through an agreement with the Universidad Indígena Intercultural for the assignment of recent graduates or students to work as interns at FAO. FAO is also working on a number of publications focused on issues affecting indigenous peoples, such as natural resources management and free, prior and informed consent in relation to land acquisition.

38. Through the Benefit-Sharing Fund of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO has provided financial support for the implementation of projects on the contribution of traditional methods for the in situ conservation and management of maize and beans for food security of farming families. Normative analysis has been produced on indigenous views of land and territory, including on the conservation of oases, and on policies and laws for the preservation of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems. Two regional studies on food security legislation and legal issues related to contract farming in support of the Hunger-Free Latin American and Caribbean Initiative have been undertaken. In addition, the FAO National Forest Programme Facility pays particular attention to the recognition and respect of customary and traditional rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, forest dwellers and forest owners in forest policy processes. Also, indigenous peoples have been included in the International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries through a consultative development process.

39. For the future, FAO is planning to develop a capacity-building programme for local community leaders, including indigenous leaders. It will launch initiatives to monitor compliance of FAO projects in indigenous territories with the principles established in the FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, and it will develop capacity-building materials in support of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security for civil society organizations and indigenous peoples. The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean is also planning to undertake several projects at the regional level, including activities aimed at the improvement and processing of indicators and data relating to indigenous peoples in the region, in alliance with the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre — Population Division and other agencies.

X. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

40. OHCHR continues to strengthen its work to advance the rights of indigenous peoples at the country level and increase its efforts to give practical guidance on the content of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Besides co-chairing the United Nations Indigenous Partnership initiative, OHCHR has implemented many initiatives in pursuance of recommendations made by the Permanent Forum, ranging from capacity-building to the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation. In respect of human rights and indicators, in 2012 OHCHR published *Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation*, to assist in developing quantitative and qualitative indicators to measure progress in the implementation of international human rights norms and principles. The Guide pays attention to the situation of indigenous peoples and provides concrete examples of indicators related to the implementation of their human rights.

41. In order to strengthen the capacity of indigenous peoples to invoke human rights standards, OHCHR continues to manage the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations to support the participation of indigenous peoples' organizations in the sessions of the Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies. In September 2012, the General Assembly adopted a resolution to expand the mandate of the Voluntary Fund to include support for indigenous peoples to participate in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including in the preparatory process (resolution 67/153). The Fund also organized, in cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information, four human rights training modules in four languages, in Geneva and New York, to increase the capacity of grantees and other indigenous representatives to effectively participate in indigenous and human rights mechanisms. In 2012, the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme helped to build the knowledge and capacity of 23 indigenous representatives from 17 countries. Furthermore, the Office in Geneva welcomed a Senior Indigenous Fellow from Canada, who undertook a four-month on-the-job training, where he contributed to the activities of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section.

42. Further to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum, OHCHR organized a seminar on the theme of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, which took place in Geneva on 16 and 17 July 2012. OHCHR has developed guidance for national human rights institutions on how to advance the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which is expected to be issued in 2013.

43. OHCHR provides substantial and other support to the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. For example, OHCHR organized an Expert Seminar on Indigenous Peoples' Languages and Cultures on 8 and 9 March 2012 to contribute to the Expert Mechanism study on this topic. The Expert Mechanism also completed a report on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making, with a focus on extractive industries. The Special Rapporteur has continued to examine recurring issues of interest and concern to indigenous peoples worldwide, most notably the issue of extractive industries affecting indigenous peoples and violence against indigenous women and girls. In 2012, the Special Rapporteur issued public statements about situations of immediate concern, such as proposed large-scale development projects on indigenous territories, and land disputes and militarization issues over indigenous lands. In 2012, he undertook country missions to the United States, El Salvador and Namibia. The Special Rapporteur contributed to the work of the Permanent Forum and the Expert Mechanism through meetings and dialogues. He held separate meetings with indigenous peoples to receive communications during the annual sessions of both the Permanent Forum and the Expert Mechanism.

44. In 2012, various treaty bodies had the opportunity to address indigenous issues in their review of State party reports, making observations on themes ranging from access to medical care to the need to respect the principle of free, prior and informed consent in connection with economic activities in indigenous peoples' traditional lands and territories. Issues concerning indigenous peoples were also frequently raised in many national reports, compilations of United Nations information, summaries of stakeholders' information and recommendations made in the context of the universal periodic review.

XI. International Labour Organization

45. ILO has a specific normative mandate in the area of indigenous peoples' rights, through its responsibility for Conventions Nos. 107 and 169. In addition, a number of other ILO instruments are indirectly related to the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations monitors the implementation of all its conventions and issues observations, which are followed up through technical cooperation of ILO to the countries concerned, as well as through a broader range of capacity-building and other outreach activities, including the Programme on Indigenous Peoples.

46. ILO has undertaken several activities in response to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum, including making reference to traditional occupations as the source of indigenous peoples' land rights within the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (e.g., as comments to reports by several countries, including Australia, Botswana, Canada, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mexico). In implementing the recommendations, ILO

encountered some challenges, such as: (a) the lack of systematic reference to ILO Convention No. 169 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as mutually reinforcing instruments; (b) the lack of information about the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership for several key actors and stakeholders working on indigenous peoples' issues at both the global and country levels; and (c) the lack of reference to the extensive and consistent observations and comments by ILO supervisory bodies on indigenous peoples within the United Nations systems.

47. ILO counts numerous projects in the different regional areas, the majority of which are being carried out through the Programme on Indigenous Peoples in collaboration with different partners such as Governments, trade unions, employers' organizations, non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples' organizations. The current activities of the Programme cover 22 countries, including 11 in Latin America, 6 in Asia and 5 in Africa. ILO capacity-development programmes on indigenous peoples include trainings for representatives of Governments, indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, staff of bilateral and multilateral cooperation and media, and intensive courses such as the one organized annually in partnership with the Human Rights Centre of the University of Pretoria. Moreover, ILO is the host of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership Technical Secretariat and is acting as a lead agency in two of the six joint country programmes (Central African Republic and Nepal). ILO also carries out activities concerning indigenous peoples at the country level through a number of decent work country programmes, which constitute an important tool for assisting the tripartite constituents of the Organization. The ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, in collaboration with a large number of international organizations, including the Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism and UNICEF, continues to engage in activities to combat child labour among indigenous children and youth.

48. ILO is actively engaged in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. Through country-based projects of the Programme on Indigenous Peoples in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Guatemala, Peru and the Philippines, ILO provides support towards the establishment of consultative mechanisms with indigenous peoples. To ensure indigenous peoples' participation, combat discrimination and facilitate coordination among duty-bearers and service providers, a community-driven participatory development approach was developed, which is proving to be a powerful tool for indigenous peoples' empowerment. In support of efforts to redefine culturally appropriate development policies, several projects of the Programme provide support to Governments and indigenous peoples while mainstreaming indigenous peoples' perspectives in national policies aimed at adopting targeted policies and programmes. In the Philippines, for instance, ILO has assisted the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples in the formulation of a master plan for indigenous peoples' development. In Namibia, the Programme provides support to the Government with the implementation of a Government-initiated development programme that focuses on the San indigenous peoples.

49. ILO considers the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 as mutually reinforcing instruments that need to be promoted jointly, especially with a view to enhancing the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to defining the post-2015 development agenda. ILO has identified a number of areas of critical importance for its work in the

coming years, including unacceptable conditions of work, the rural economy and the informal sector, which are all critically relevant to the situation of indigenous peoples. If these areas were addressed, this would enable ILO to focus on the empowerment of indigenous peoples, who are one of the groups most vulnerable to climate change, current economic turmoil, conflict and discrimination.

XII. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

50. UNCTAD has undertaken important work in areas relevant to indigenous peoples' issues, particularly in the areas of BioTrade, which is an initiative aimed at promoting trade and investment in biological resources to further sustainable development in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity. The principles and criteria that guide the implementation of BioTrade activities include recognition of and respect for the rights and practices of local and indigenous communities in relation to territory, culture and knowledge. In addition, benefits arising from BioTrade activities are to be shared in such a way as to reward the community, as well as to protect and conserve biodiversity, based on prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms with the parties involved. Concretely, BioTrade activities with indigenous communities have focused on: (a) capacity-building and institutional strengthening; (b) research and information; and (c) the sustainable use of native biodiversity. The UNCTAD BioTrade programme sponsored a case study in Ecuador, where a pilot project started in 1998 by 20 women had, by 2001, evolved into a communitarian business named Jambi Kiwa; the project aimed to improve the quality of life, foster gender equality, guarantee the sustainable use of surrounding natural resources and capture the market potential of medicinal plants.

XIII. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

51. The activities carried out by ECLAC in 2012 have included identifying indigenous peoples in health records and in the 2010 census round; improving the knowledge on the situation of indigenous peoples, women and youth, in the production and dissemination of disaggregated data for indigenous peoples; and increasing national capacities through technical assistance and training to State agencies and indigenous peoples' organizations in Latin America. These activities have been developed through the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre-Population Division of ECLAC, in conjunction with other agencies of the United Nations, such as UNFPA, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and UNICEF, with support from aid agencies, such as the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and the Ford Foundation, and through cooperative agreements with State agencies such as the ministries of health of Ecuador and Guatemala.

52. ECLAC has focused its work on activities such as (a) the provision of systematic technical advice to countries in Latin America to implement the recommendations regarding international and regional censuses and indigenous peoples with the participation of indigenous and non-indigenous peoples and the support of other agencies of the United Nations, in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); (b) the inclusion of the identification of indigenous peoples in the health records in cooperation with PAHO, UNFPA and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, and training of health-

care workers to improve the quality of birth registration; (c) participation in various forums and workshops relating to population and housing censuses for the dissemination and exchange of experiences and the advancement of the establishment of national and regional strategies. Moreover, ECLAC, together with PAHO, has developed technical material for the inclusion of data on indigenous peoples' ethnicity in health records. These efforts improve health information systems and lead to a greater understanding of health issues from an indigenous perspective, all of which contributes to strengthening democratic institutions and promoting intercultural dialogue. However, significant challenges remain, since progress is uneven among countries in the region and the minimum standards contained in international recommendations have not yet been met.

53. In the area of demographic research, with support from the Ford Foundation, ECLAC developed an atlas of indigenous peoples in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru, mapping their demographic, education and health conditions. ECLAC and UNICEF cooperated to develop a study on child poverty in indigenous peoples and peoples of African descent in Latin America, which provides ethnically differentiated information for 17 countries in Latin America on the extent of child poverty and gaps in access to education, information, housing, drinking water and sanitation facilities.

54. ECLAC is in the process of updating its database on indigenous peoples and peoples of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean containing the system of sociodemographic indicators of indigenous populations and peoples of Latin America. Additionally, ECLAC has processed information derived from the 2010 census relating to indigenous peoples with disabilities, some of which has been incorporated into the 2012 edition of the publication, *Social Panorama of Latin America*. On the other hand, ECLAC has continued to strengthen national capacities for the use of this information in the design and monitoring of policies and the promotion of human rights. Overall, ECLAC has made progress in producing knowledge about the situation of indigenous peoples in Latin America, with a focus on indigenous women, children and youth. Several studies have been completed with participatory methodologies that provide input to the construction of intercultural knowledge. However, further efforts are needed to achieve greater outreach and impact from the results of the studies, especially among decision makers and indigenous peoples' organizations. Information-sharing would enhance the coordination between partners, indigenous peoples' organizations, academic centres and statistical institutes, for defining content to contribute to the empowerment of indigenous peoples, and to equality and non-discrimination.

XIV. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

55. UN-Women has worked for the promotion and inclusion of indigenous issues throughout its policy, programming and coordination work. Efforts at the global, regional and country levels demonstrate a strong commitment to promoting the rights of indigenous women and girls.

56. In the area of research and advocacy, UN-Women has responded with substantial work focusing on indigenous women's rights in the context of human rights, specifically on promoting access to land and resources, on ending violence

against women and girls and on encouraging political participation. For example, UN-Women and OHCHR have developed a Handbook on Effective Strategies to Realize Women's Rights to Land and other Productive Resources to support the adoption and effective implementation of laws, policies and programmes to ensure women's access, use and control over land and other productive resources. In coordination with UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, UN-Women is working on a report on violence against indigenous girls, adolescents and youth, with the aim of increasing knowledge of the nature, prevalence, incidence and consequences of violence affecting indigenous girls, adolescents and youth.

57. UN-Women will continue to support the engagement of women excluded from political participation, in particular young and indigenous women. UN-Women will undertake a research programme in 2013 on indigenous women's leadership and access to politics. In preparation for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, with a focus on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, UN-Women has supported the writing of key reports on the issues and has systematically included the issues of indigenous women and girls. With regard to the post-2015 development agenda, UN-Women promotes the integration of indigenous peoples' issues in all discussions and the participation of indigenous women in consultations at the national, regional and international levels. UN-Women has also made efforts to ensure that indigenous women are included in its core civil society advisory groups, at both the regional and global levels, and featured prominently in panels held on the occasion of International Women's Day.

58. Capacity-building is at the core of promoting the meaningful participation of indigenous women. Building the capacity of women and youth is just as critical as building that of the authorities and officials who oversee the exercise of their rights. UN-Women has focused on building the capacity of indigenous women in the areas of political participation, especially electoral issues (Latin American region), negotiation and peace processes (Myanmar), local governance structures (Burundi) and constitutional reform and implementation processes (Plurinational State of Bolivia). UN-Women, through its positioning at the global level and its regional and country-level presence, offers multidimensional support to indigenous women and girls. Through its Fund for Gender Equality, which has awarded nine different grants across 15 countries since its inception in 2009, UN-Women has invested approximately $4.7 million in civil society-based initiatives linked to indigenous peoples' issues. The UN-Women regional programmes in Asia and Latin America have addressed indigenous peoples' issues through research and advocacy and by bolstering women's ability to participate in key decision-making arenas.